(iii) Date tree-tapping for jaggery manufacture is allowed in Krishna, North Arcot, Chittoor, Nellore and Guntur districts, Baruva village in Srikakulam district and Doddaghatta village in Anantapur district.

(iv) Sago tree-tapping for jaggery manufatcure is allowed in Walluvanad and Palghat taluks in Malabar district.

" (c) Permission to tap trees for sweet toddy for jaggery manufacture has not been granted in Cuddapah district.

" (d) It was apprehended that any tapping concession in the Cuddapah district would lead to serious malpractices and jeopardize the normal working of the Prohibition Act."

SRI Y. AUDINARAYANA REDDI :—" Why are the Government making a distinction between one district and another district? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" As and when the Government find the necessity in a particular district, they will consider the question."

9 a.m. SRI A. APPU :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that in Malabar, only in a few places this concession is allowed and as a result of it thousands of people have been thrown out of employment and the Tappers' Associations have made representations to the Government to give them employment? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" On proper representation, the matter will be considered."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Sir, in view of the fact that tappers are not able to get even their daily income of three annas from the jaggery co-operative societies, may I know what steps the Government propose to take to raise their income? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The matter is under the serious consideration of the Government."

SRI T. N. VENKATASUBBA REDDI :—" In reply to clause (d) of the quarters, it is stated that no permission has been given in the Cuddapah district for tapping sweet toddy because it will lead to malpractices. May I request to the Hon. Minister that it casts an aspersion on the people of Cuddapah and that it is not true? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" No, Sir."

SRI MANJAYA SHETTY :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have received any recommendation from the South Kanara District Prohibition Advisory Committee to open neera parlours in the district immediately and if so what action the Government have taken in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The matter will receive the attention of the Government."

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SRI P. CHINNAMA REDDI :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government intend to stop the issue of licences to tappers as there is a lot of abuse? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The question will be considered on merits."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether any representation has been received by the Government from the tappers in Malabar that they should be permitted indi vidually to tap sweet toddy without the medium of the co-opera tive societies, in view of the fact that only half of the price of jaggery that they manufacture is being given in the first instance and they get the remaining half only at a later stage and there-fore . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is making a speech. He must put his question."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" I am putting a question, Sir. May I know whether representations have been received from the tappers in Malabar that individual tappers should be permitted to tap sweet toddy without the medium of the co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" So far as I understand, I do not know whether any such representa-tion has been made. But, if the hon. Member puts a separate quetsion, the matter will be considered."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" May I inform the Hon. Minister that from all parts of Malabar representations have been made to this effect and I know it for certain I do not know why the Govern-ment have not allowed it up to this time. May I know when the Government will permit sweet toddy tapping for the manufacture of jaggery? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The matter is engaging the serious attention of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I request hon. Members not to change their seats, because I find it difficult to call hon. Members. I am following the Division List in calling out hon. Members' names and so I request hon. Members not to change the seats allotted to them."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Sir, as there is a great demand for sweet toddy, will the Government con-sider the question of issuing permits to whoever applies for it? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" With due consideration for observing the provisions of the Prohibition Act, the matter will be examined."

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have issued licences to tappers to tap sweet toddy and if so, why the police take action against the tappers in Mayuram taluk of the Tanjore district? "

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THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD:—"May I know, Sir, what precautions the Government have taken to prevent the abuse of the concessions allowed in these centres?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"There are authorities to prevent abuses and they have been asked to be more vigilant in the matter."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP:—"It is stated, Sir, that coconut tree-tapping has been allowed in certain select areas in Malabar. May I know what is the basis for such selection?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"It is a matter which I cannot answer off-hand. I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that toddy is sold in places where tapping of sweet toddy is permitted for the manufacture of jaggery?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"The Government are not aware of it."

SRI G. LATCHANNA:—"May I know, Sir, in how many places the tappers were rendered unemployed as a result of the Prohibition Act and for how many of them the Government were able to provide employment by permitting them to tap sweet toddy and by the formation of jaggery co-operative societies; and may I also know whether by allowing sweet toddy tapping they can prevent the production of illicit liquor?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"So far as the report goes, a great majority of the ex-tappers have been employed and only a small fraction of them have been left unemployed."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"What are the figures, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"I want notice."

SRI C. RAJAM RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the fact that wherever permit was given, it has been mostly abused by the person to whom the permit was issued?"

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN:—"Sir, without making any discrimination between district and district in the State, will the Government see that licences are issued to all applicants in the State for tapping sweet toddy?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"No, Sir, the Government should move very cautiously in the matter."

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SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—" Are the Government aware that even honest ex-toddy tappers and genuine persons were denied licences for tapping sweet toddy in the Chingleput district in spite of representations made by the local Assembly members? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" The policy of the Government is to grant licences to tappers who come under the co-operative society system."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—" Sir, in the answer given by the Hon. Minister to one of the questions in the early part of the discussion, the Government seem to have made a clear distinction regarding the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool and Cuddapah so far as jaggery making is concerned. By that, do the Government mean that these four districts are so peculiarly situated and so very extraordinarily situated as to warrant them to make a distinction in such a way? When are the Government going to abolish the Prohibition Act, so that this distinction cannot be made? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" As regards the discrimination which has been alleged by the hon. Member, I do not see any justification for such a remark. But, for the time being in the opinion of the Government, it was thought fit to withhold licences."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—" I did not allege anything, but it is there in the report itself."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952–53.

MR. SPEAKER:—" We shall now take up the General Discussion of the Budget. Dr. K. B. Menon will now speak."

SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—" What about my Privilege Motion, Sir? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Has the hon. Member given notice of it? "

SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—" I myself gave it to you, Sir, just now."

MR. SPEAKER:—' Probably it was sent to me during question time. I have not seen it yet. I am not aware it has been given to me."

SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—" I gave it at 8-30 a.m. to-day, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Probably it was given during question time. I shall look into the matter. Meanwhile, we shall proceed with the next item."

* DR. K. B. MENON:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to confine my remarks this morning to the general aspects of the Budget and reserve what I have to say on specific problems to the time when the voting of grants takes place.

[Dr. K. B. Menon] [10th July 1952

" Sir, as far as the Budget is concerned, I wish to say that there is nothing very striking about it, that it follows the beaten path and that it only maintains the traditions of the Congress for the last five years. It is a deficit Budget and a deficit has to be met either by taxation or by loans. I am glad that the Government have decided to resort to taxation instead of loans, for loans will lead to inflation. But, resorting to taxation does not make a Budget a good Budget. What then is the test of a good Budget? The test of a good Budget is the contribution that the Government make and the lead that they take in nation-building. Times were when the only function of the Government was to maintain law and order, but those Gladstonian days are over and the function of the Government today is much more than maintaining law and order. It is the duty of the Government to participate in activising economy, in initiating new industries and in encouraging new enterprises that contribute to public welfare, in encouraging agriculture, in constructing new roads and in improving means of communication and in a host of other things in which State interest, initiative and investment are necessary. I take it that the Five-year Plan of the Government of India, as well as the Five-year Plan of the Government of Madras envisage these constructive activities or nation-building activities. But when I look through the Budget, I get disappointed. According to the Five-year Plan of the Central Government, 350 crores of rupees are to be spent annually and if a pro rata distribution of that amount is made to the Madras State according to population, one-seventh of it, namely, Rs. 50 crores ought to be spent. According to the Five-year Plan of the Government of Madras, I believe Rs. 130 crores are to be distributed over the five years. Then annually they should spend about Rs. 25 crores. Now, I submit that this is a very poor allotment for this is not likely to meet the needs of the State and it is necessary to spend very much more than what the Government are prepared to spend. I believe the Government are going on the assumption—both in the Centre as well as in the Madras State—that the capitalists of India will have the courage, will have the ability, will have the initiative and the interest in the reorganization of the economy of our country.
9-15 a.m. I submit that that is an assumption which is totally wrong. Our capitalists are a pack of traders whose quest is profit and who have no interest outside themselves. Our capitalists and industrialists are not like their counterparts in the western countries of Europe and America who have been responsible for building up gigantic industrial enterprises and a gigantic economic structure. For this and many other reasons, it is certainly the decisive responsibility of the Government to take more interest in the nation-building work of the State.

" The Government have failed to give a prominent place to the Five-year Plan. The allotment made for executing the plan is relegated to an appendix in the Finance Minister's Budget speech. According to the White Paper on the Budget that was published by the previous Government, the allotment for the year